

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 4, 5, 7 – 9, 10 – 13, 19, 27 – 30, and 32 have been cancelled.

Claims 34 - 36 have been added. Claims 1, 6, 17, 18, and 24 have been amended, as follows.

1. (currently amended) A method for configuring a headless device, comprising:

retrieving a pre-stored DHCP address from DHCP address storage in the headless device;

transmitting a request to the DHCP server using the pre-stored DHCP address to obtain a routable address for the headless device;

sending, by a self-initiated configuration mechanism in the headless device, a configure service request to a configuration service mechanism across a network, the service request asking for a configuration specification corresponding to the headless device, the headless device being identified by the routable address;

receiving from the configuration service mechanism, the configuration specification to the self-initiated configuration mechanism at the headless device; and

configuring, by the self-initiated configuration mechanism in the headless device, the headless device according to the configuration specification received from the configuration service mechanism.

2. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, further including:

registering the headless device, prior to the sending, with the configuration service mechanism using a device identification of the headless device.

3. (previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the registering includes:

receiving, by the configuration service mechanism from a configuration specification set-up mechanism, a request to set up the configuration specification of the headless device, the request including the device identification;

recording the device identification of the headless device to register the headless device; and

storing the configuration specification of the headless device.

Claims 4 – 5 (cancelled).

6. (currently amended) The method according to claim [[5]] 1, further including:

receiving a request to update the existing configuration specification of a headless device, the request including a device identification of the headless device; [[and]]

updating the existing configuration specification of the headless device according to the request to generate updated configuration specification; and

replacing the existing configuration specification with the updated configuration specification.

Claims 7 – 16 (cancelled).

17. (currently amended) A headless device, comprising:

a DHCP server address storage to store a DHCP server address;

a communication mechanism for performing communications;

a routable address determination mechanism to retrieve the DHCP server

address from storage and to utilize the communication mechanism to obtain a routable address from the DHCP server;

a self-initiated configuration mechanism, within the headless device, for configuring the headless device via a configuration service mechanism through the communication mechanism by sending a configure service request to a configuration service mechanism across a network, the service request asking for a configuration specification corresponding to the headless device and receiving the configuration specification from the configuration service mechanism, the headless device being identified by the routable address.

18. (currently amended) The device according to claim 17, wherein the self-initiated configuration mechanism includes:

~~a routable address determination mechanism for determining a routable address to where the configuration service mechanism sends the configuration specification of the headless device;~~

a configuration specification retrieval mechanism for retrieving the configuration specification from the configuration service mechanism using a device identification, associated with the headless device, and the routable address; and

a configuration set up mechanism for configuring the headless device based on the configuration specification received from the configuration service mechanism.

Claim 19 (cancelled).

20. (previously presented) The device according to claim 18, wherein the configuration specification retrieval mechanism includes:

a request initiation mechanism for initiating a request to the configuration service

mechanism to retrieve the configuration specification based on the device identification, the request being sent with the device identification and the routable address, to where the retrieved configuration specification is sent; and

a receiver for receiving, after the request is sent, the configuration specification from the configuration service mechanism.

21. (previously presented) The device according to claim 20, further including:

a time out mechanism for controlling the receiver to receive the configuration specification within a length of time determined according to a time out condition.

Claims 22 and 23 (cancelled).

24. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium encoded with a program for configuring a headless device, the program, when executed, causing:

retrieving a pre-stored DHCP address from DHCP address storage in the headless device;

transmitting a request to the DHCP server using the pre-stored DHCP address to obtain a routable address for the headless device;

sending, by a self-initiated configuration mechanism in a headless device, a configure service request to a configuration service mechanism across a network, the service request asking for a configuration specification corresponding to the headless device, the headless device being identified by the routable address;

receiving from the configuration service mechanism, the configuration specification to the self-initiated configuration mechanism, at the headless device; and configuring, by the self-initiated configuration mechanism in the headless device,

the headless device according to the configuration specification received from the configuration service mechanism.

25. (previously presented) The medium according to claim 24, wherein the program causes, when executed:

receiving, prior to the sending, a request to register the headless device and its corresponding configuration specification using a device identification sent with the request;

recording the device identification of the headless device; and

storing the configuration specification of the headless device.

Claims 26 – 30 (cancelled).

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the headless device is a device which has no means to receive user input except for a network interface card.

Claim 32 (cancelled).

33. (previously presented) The headless device of claim 17, wherein the headless device is a device which has no means to receive user input except for a network interface card.

34. (new) A method for configuring a headless device, comprising:
requesting, from a DHCP server, a routable IP address;
selecting a stored routable IP address from an alternative routable address storage at the headless device if the requesting of the routable IP address from the DHCP server was not successful;

sending, by a self-initiated configuration mechanism in the headless device, a

configure service request to a configuration service mechanism across a network, the service request asking for a configuration specification corresponding to the headless device; and

receiving from the configuration service mechanism, the configuration specification to the self-initiated configuration mechanism at the headless device and configuring the headless device according to the configuration specification.

35. (new) A computer-readable medium encoded with a program for configuring a headless device, the program, when executed, causes the headless device to:

request, from a DHCP server, a routable IP address;

select a stored routable IP address from an alternative routable address storage at the headless device if the requesting of the routable IP address from the DHCP server was not successful;

send, by a self-initiated configuration mechanism in the headless device, a configure service request to a configuration service mechanism across a network, the service request asking for a configuration specification corresponding to the headless device; and

receive from the configuration service mechanism, the configuration specification to the self-initiated configuration mechanism at the headless device and configuring the headless device according to the configuration specification.

36. (new) A headless device, comprising:

an alternative routable address storage, located within the headless device, for storing an alternative routable address;

a routable address determination mechanism for requesting a routable address

from a DHCP server and for retrieving an alternative routable address from the alternative routable address storage on the headless device if the requesting of the routable address from the DHCP server was not successful from the DHCP server; and

a self-initiated configuration mechanism, within the headless device, for configuring the headless device via a configuration service mechanism through the communication mechanism by sending a configure service request to a configuration service mechanism across a network, the service request asking for a configuration specification corresponding to the headless device and receiving the configuration specification from the configuration service mechanism, the headless device being identified by the routable address.